

WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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THE BLIND.

They make found the fertile, generous earth,
And mumble husks.
They herd fat cattle on ten thousand hills,
And gnaw on bones.
They dig unnumbered tons of carbon coals,
And freeze withal.
They weave fine linen and the finest silks,
And garb in rage.
They rear great mansions in the city's ways,
And dwell in slums.
And having all at their combined command,
They ask for alms.

—A. G. GANNON, in N.Y. Call.

The Passing Show.

CONDUCTED BY OTUS.

THE Amalgamated Engineers in the north-east of England, who have been on strike for many months, in return for an advance of 1s per day, have tied themselves up with a five-years' agreement. As half of the advance is only to be paid when the boiler-makers' strike terminates and the other half six months later, it looks as if the engineers had secured the worst end of a bad job. Anyhow, every lengthy agreement with the employing class is closely related to a pledge to seal on the rest of workers.

Mr. McGowan, in giving the toast of "Manufacturing Industries," at the Chamber of Manufacturers' dinner, said that in 1899 the value of primary production was £29,278,000, the added value of manufacture £9,207,000, or a total of £38,485,000. In 1909 the value of primary production was £44,420,000, the added value of manufacture £14,536,000, or a total of £58,956,000.

But "Premier Jim" was very careful to say nothing about the amount paid to the workers in wages. That would have been too much of a revelation.

The Federal Capital has been proclaimed. The interests of the Campbell concern are safe. The *Daily Telegraph* is pleased with the Labor Government.

Josiah Thomas doesn't object to Labor being robbed; he promises to protect the "fair" robber and to deal out stoush to the unscrupulous robber. Also this Christian man says he's out to protect the Australian against the "foreign" worker!

Adelaide's Labor paper, the *Daily Herald*, recently stated that the newly-formed Carpenters and Joiners' Union was being run by revolutionary Socialists. At its last meeting, the union carried a resolution contradicting this statement.

When Labor-member Thomas says the "vast majority of employers in Australia GIVE A FAIR LIVING WAGE," he deliberately prevaricates. In the first case, no wage can ever be fair, because the wage system implies the profit system, and the profit system means that people who don't work shall have the legal right to take a portion—at present the larger portion—of the wealth created by the people who do work.

Judge Higgins, in deciding to increase the wages of officers in Australian vessels, "but not to the extent claimed," admitted that the cost of living had distinctly increased.

The officers, it will be noted, were thus really fighting, not for an actual increase, but to resist what was a virtual decrease—in other words, to prevent their standard of living from being reduced. And, notwithstanding that Mr. Higgins has given them a slight "increase," they're probably in a worse position than they were a few years previously.

When Josiah Thomas, at the Chamber of Manufacturers' dinner, declared that he "would not hesitate to support the matter for all he knew to get cables sent to England and America for sixpence a word," the fat men around the festive board cheered and cheered and cheered, until apoplexy and busted white waistcoats threatened to mar the proceedings. When Josiah further proceeded to say that "those were the views of the Government, so that they could not altogether be accused of being class representatives, for a reduction in cable rates would not benefit the working man, but the business man," his entertainers once more clapped their soft, fat hands and said "Hear, hear" exactly nineteen times with great emphasis.

Flemington, Vic., P.L.C. denounces the Federal Labor Government for its decision to send Labor and Liberal members to England to see the king crowned and W. M. Hughes knickerbockered. The P.L.C. thinks it isn't in accord with the ideals and aspirations of earnest workers in Labor's cause that eleven Labor members and seven Liberal members should go all the way to England at a cost of £2500 just to see some Churchmen with embroidery on their trousers fit the fifth George into a silly old crown or some one else drag the graceful curves of Billy Hughes's calves through the tightness of knee-breeches and silk stockings.

More of the morality of Capitalism: The pure food inspectors have condemned between 12,000 and 13,000 tins of condensed milk of the class which is generally used by manufacturing confectioners.

Eleven Labor and seven Liberal members of the Federal Parliament are going to take a trip to England to cut anties at the coronation corroboree. They are taking £2500 out of the public treasury to pay their way with.

Although the Labor Party declares for full citizen rights for civil servants, it won't let the letter-carriers in its employ run as candidates in municipal elections unless they get the consent of the Public Service Commissioner. This disability does not apply to the high officials. Recently a letter-carrier was elected to the Enfield Council by a majority of 5 to 1 over his opponent. The unsuccessful candidate raised the point that the successful candidate was a postal worker, and the latter had to resign, the man the voters wouldn't have getting the seat next time without opposition. If the Labor Party was sincere in its "full citizen rights" cry during the election campaign, it would be impossible now to penalise or victimise a man for his political actions.

Judge Heydon lays it down that if any objection is raised against the appointment of any Wages Board chairman, the name of the person objected to must not be mentioned—a rule which seems to be about as free from stupidity as the decision of the working-class to entrust the fixing of their wages and conditions to class-dominated Wages Boards.

The Rockchoppers' strike at Long Bay illustrates the Wages Board's idiocy. There are three conflicting awards which affect the rockchoppers. In the present case the contractor was paying in accordance with the F.L.C. award, which fixes the wages at 10s per day. The rockchoppers very rightly demanded 11s 6d per day—the ruling rate for their union, and also the rate fixed by the Water and Sewerage award.

After all, £2,569 was a very small price to pay for the services rendered to the House of Fat by the Man with the Leg-Irons. The smashing of the coal strike alone must have been worth at least £100,000 to the N.S.W. exploiters. Wade will begin to think it's a crowd of sweaters he's been taking his orders from.

The recruiting of natives of Angola (slave labor), in Portuguese East Africa for the St. Thome cocoa plantations, will henceforth be entrusted to Government administration.

But what difference there is in slavery under Government supervision and the other sort the cable fails to say.

Dr. Cook now says he isn't sure whether he reached the North Pole. Gregory Wade's different—he's sure of what he reached because of the intense cold of the hard and unsympathetic spot he was dumped down upon with such a series of dull, sickening thuds.

The ruling class sent soldiers to South Africa to kill the Boers, because they refused votes to the Outlanders. The same ruling class flings the women of England into the jails of England whenever they demand votes for themselves.

The squabble over the release of Ben Haladar shows that, notwithstanding the Labor Party's denunciation of the black man and its White Australia shriekings, its leader doesn't hesitate to plead for and accept the black man's vote when polling day is happening along.

Mount Morgan Gold Mining Company's November output is valued at £81,111, compared with £39,918 for the preceding month.

If somebody will just look up the Co.'s wages sheet for November, an object lesson in surplus value will be right on hand.

The personal squabbles between Messrs. Wade and Holman in N.S.W. Parliament has reached a stage where public decency would be more adequately served if each gentleman with his cart-load of dead cats was dumped through some manhole into the Bondi sewer.

The Federal Acting-Treasurer says that blind people will be eligible for invalid pensions provided they do not earn more than 10s a week.

This brutal decision of the Federal Government concerning blind workers is a bit different to the treatment accorded N.S.W. policeman Garvin, who isn't blind, and who is to get a pension of £20 a week from McGowan and Co. There's a big gulf between 10s a week and £20 a week, isn't there?

At Yerranderie, the miners engaged in sinking in wet ground are only paid 9s a day. The ruling rate is 10s. They are also being paid only 8s a day for 8½ hours underground. And still there are Stone Age men among the Yerranderie miners who object to Socialism.

The capitalist press is announcing that the difficulty of securing labor for the canefields on the Clarence River this season has greatly limited the area that would have otherwise been planted.

The papers forget to say that the scarcity of labor is due to the abnormally low rates of remuneration offered.

The daily press announces that the High Court actions begun by the Commonwealth against what is known as the coal vend and shipping combine will probably not be heard until after January.

It took Wade about seven days to get the rockchoppers into jail, and in less than 28 days a new Act was made for the successful jailing of the coal strike officials; and it's going to take the Federal Labor Party nearly a year to get the wealthy coal-owners before a court for the purpose of asking that they be fined a fraction—sorry that they be jailed.

It is likely that one result of Mr. Justice Higgins' award in the Merchant Service Guild case will be the raising of passenger and cargo rates.

Of course, and when the cargo rates are raised the cost of the commodities to the workers will be raised. Under Arbitration and Wages Boards Awards and sectional effort on the part of the workers, the whole of the working-class has to pay the increases in wages needed to the various sections.

It seems as if King O'Malley is doomed to go on acting the good-for-ever-until-over-world-without-end. The other day, when in Sydney, he told some people: "As the missionary of the great Federal Labor Christian Government, I have come over to New South Wales to interview missionaries of the great New South Wales Christian Labor Government," and then he went on to compare Wade with Nebuchadnezzar eating grass on the mountain sides—a comparison that is an insult to Nebuchadnezzar.

The Labor Party will either have to get King O'Malley's political hair cut or buy an official hobble skirt for him.

The Labor Chief Secretary has given orders that taxi-cabs are to have a separate rank from the hansom cabs at the railway station stand, and the Cabmen's Unionists and owners of the doomed horse-vehicles are alleging that the wealthy taxi-cab owners have squared certain officers of the department in favor of a change that operates to the detriment of the unionists and wholly in favor of the money-power that runs the taxi horrors.

In 'elegant phraseology' King O'Malley declares that "the Federal capital is like an egg in the hatching—and I'm the hen that's doin' the hatchin', brother," he says.

This paper doesn't wish to deny King O'Malley's claim to be regarded as an old hen, but there are some hens that sit on addled eggs, brother.

Acting Prime Minister Hughes: What were our troops supposed to be doing during the Boer War? Sucaring—Mr. Anstey: Poultry!

"Salvation Jane" has been proclaimed a noxious weed by the Culeairn Shire Council. The same weed is also called "Patterson's Curse," and it seems as if the Culeairn Council has struck something similar to the weed recently declared noxious by Newcastle C.E.F.

The Government of Portugal has decreed that all the workers, State employees excepted, are to have the right to strike. Those engaged in the supply of water and light, and also the railway and maritime transport workers, are to be required to give specified notice of their intention to strike. Which shows that the political revolutionists of yesterday are the industrial reactionaries of to-day, and that the workers of Portugal have now got to fight the new Government, both industrially and politically.

The burden of the speeches at a recent meeting of the Sydney Labor Council was that the Council must not, by either political demands or industrial action, embarrass the new Government.

And yet every industrial organisation that is free from the fear of scabbery knows that the biggest part of the work ahead of it is to fight the present middle class combine that holds Stokes in jail, gets itself cheered by the Chamber of Manufacturers, and calls itself a Labor Government.

H. W. Meakin, formerly Under-Treasurer in Victoria, and drawing a State pension of £600 a year, has also been receiving £400 a year from the Federal Government as a special magistrate to hear old age pension applications. W. Goggin, formerly of the Treasury, and ex-police magistrate Keogh, both of whom are in receipt of considerable pensions, are to act as special magistrates to hear pension claims. Thus does the Labor Government grease the already overfed and painfully fat pig. Besides, there's something rottenly ludicrous in an old-age pensioner from the useless section of the community, whose pension runs out at £2 a day, being paid an extra £1 6s 8d a day to decide whether a man or woman of the useful working-class shall be doled out a pension of 1s 8d per day.

L.S.D. Hilltop Garland writes: "THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST is the very thing I've been looking for for some considerable time."

W.M. Yerranderie, says: "Everyone that has read the paper here declares that it is first class."

H.L.D. Mt. Morgan, writes: "I shall have a lot to say in a future letter about B—and some other honest workers here, all of whom are elated with our work and with the paper."

A recent statement of Mr. Beeby's is a forecast of State assistance to be given by the N.S.W. Labor Party to denominational schools.

Recently, J. Gunn moved in the Adelaide Trades and Labor Council to protest against the proposal to confer the title of Lord Mayor on the occupant of the mayoral office in Adelaide, which he described as an effort to give Mr. Cohen a peacock's strut. C. R. Baker, in supporting the motion, described the strong opposition a similar proposal had experienced from a section of the United Labor Party. He remarked on the economic importance of the resolution, and was proceeding to say that he objected to the idea that the king was the fountain of honor, when the president pulled him up with a loyal jerk, and a horrified Laborite protested that the king couldn't be anything but "the source of honor"—a contention that was amply sustained by the cabled news that the king had wired to ask after the proprietors' horses at a time when the women and children were starving in a British mining centre as the result of the war declared against them by the king's friends, the mine-owners. The motion was carried.

The worker piles up fortunes for men who never toil at productive labor, and yet imagines he is "employed" by the people he feeds.—*Exchange*.

To our Contributors.

CONTRIBUTORS TO THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST are reminded that our space is exceedingly limited. The more short articles and crisp and snappy paragraphs will have the best chance of securing publication.

Writers are asked to note that preference will be given to articles dealing with current industrial and political events from a Revolutionary Socialist viewpoint. Articles must not exceed 1000 words. Open Column contributions exceeding 500 words cannot be printed.

Write legibly, on one side of the paper only, and leave good space between the lines.

When posting, leave ends open, and mark "Press Copy Only." A penny stamp will then be sufficient from any part of Australia. Address to "The Editor."

Every contribution must bear the writer's name—not necessarily for publication.

Friends and Members visiting THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST Office are urged to assist in getting business done with expedition. DON'T STAY TO TALK. We're always busy; and the delays we are subjected to in the daytime we have to make up for by working through the night hours.

Committee and General Meetings.

THE following meetings will be held at 274 Pitt-st., Sydney, during the forthcoming week:—
Thursday, 7.—S.F.A. Administrative Council.
Thursday, 8.—Economic Class.
Monday, 7.30 p.m.—Club Executive.
Monday, 8.30 p.m.—Joint Executives.
Monday, 9.15 p.m.—Party Executive.

A Red Mark

through this paragraph indicates that YOUR SUBSCRIPTION WILL EXPIRE WITH NEXT ISSUE, and must be renewed within ten days from date of this issue if you wish the paper to continue. If your Subscription is not renewed within the time stated, the Executive will take it as an intimation that you wish to have the paper discontinued.

Then out from the field and the city,
From workshop, from mill and from mine,
Despising their wrath and their pity,
We workers are moving in line—
To answer the watchword and token
That Labor gives forth as its own;
Nor pause till our fetters we've broken,
And conquered the spoiler and drone.
—JAMES CONNOLLY.

Economics of the Labor Party

BY J. BLUMENTHAL.

AFTER so many years of bitter struggle and strife, the Labor Party has at last obtained the reins of political Government in the Commonwealth and the States of South Australia and New South Wales. As predicted by the Socialists, the workers have not gained one iota by the inauguration of "Labor's" regime. Looking at the stamp of men alleged to be representing the working-class in our Parliaments, one is immediately struck by the fact that economic justice can not be obtained through the party they represent, for that party does not reflect the revolutionary ideals of the class-conscious wage-workers, and consequently its members do not possess the knowledge, capacity, or sincerity that is requisite for a genuine workers' party. After the crowning of their efforts of twenty years, what practical benefits have been obtained for the wage-earners by the Labor Governments? The argument that they have not been in power a sufficient length of time to put into effect their ideals will not hold air, for the many small actions performed by these Labor Governments have even disproved that absurd "Labor" cry of "legislating for all classes," for on every occasion of a strike, or demand for higher wages, the Labor Governments have sided with whom?—the workers? No! The workers' masters, the capitalists, and have even sent the police, as in South Australia recently, to guard the blacklegs. That a union moving along working-class lines was enabled to bring the haughty and holy "Labor" Premier in South Australia to his knees, is an ominous fact that should make the workers realise that, organised on an industrial basis, they can defy Labor and Liberal Governments, with their strike-breaking myrmidons, the police and military. We have just learned per cable that Briand, of France, was instrumental in breaking the railway workers' strike. We see in America, as in Australia,

"Labor" leaders dining with capitalists, and fulsomely eulogising each other, while the worker, with purposely-stultified mind, keeps on toiling, ignorant of his economic exploitation.

What, then, is the failure of the Labor party, that it is unable to ameliorate or fundamentally alter the economic basis of our present capitalistic state of society?

The economic foundation on which the Labor Party's platform and objective rests is one of capitalist class interests. Let the reader understand the term political economy, for everything in this world is subject to it. Religion, philosophy, morality, ethics, etc., are subject to the laws of political economy, for political economy deals with the fundamental bases of our existence, land, labor, and machinery, to which everything is subject. In the earlier stages of the Australian Labor movement, Holman, Hughes, Nielsen, Beeby, Griffith, and others posed as Socialists, but they were certainly not class-conscious Socialists. Led by Holman, they repudiated Marx for the teachings of Bohm Bawerk and Stuart Mill; and, ultimately, adhering to their policy of securing Parliamentary positions as a first consideration, they dropped out of the Socialist ranks when the Socialists decided to sever connection with the opportunist movement.

The assertion that the Labor Party is a Socialist Party is utterly false, and this can be conclusively proved by comparing its so-called socialistic objective with the statements of the Labor Party's own adherents. I have tried to analyse the Labor Party's objective and to bring the statements of its supporters into comparison with the Marxian doctrine, and I am forced to admit that not only is the Labor Party's objective not evolutionary Socialism, but that it is not Socialism of any sort. Marxian Socialism, Revolutionary Socialism, is based on three fundamental principles:

1. The materialist interpretation of history.
2. The law of surplus value.
3. The class struggle.

The law of surplus value reveals how the worker is economically robbed by a class that owns the tools of production, to whom he must sell the only commodity that he possesses—his labor power. Unable to get access to the land and the tools of production, the "free" worker is compelled to sell his labor-power to the capitalist or starve. The difference between what he earns and what he receives is surplus value—the unearned increment, which goes to his master.

The materialist interpretation of history shows how the methods employed by the people to produce the necessities of life—food, clothing and shelter—have determined their social organisation, their religion, their morals, their politics, etc.

A dominant class has immorally, but legally (their own class made laws to suit their interests), obtained possession of the tools and the land, and to the possessors the worker has to sell himself—for a consideration. Out of this fact grows a conflict of interests, class antagonisms are generated, a bitter class struggle arises—a struggle that must last as long as Capitalism lasts, that will end when Capitalism ends. No one can deny this bitter class war. No one has ever seen the capitalist class voting for and supporting a working-class candidate. But how many fool workers vote as their masters tell them, for "how can we do without capital," they ignorantly exclaim.

Only some time back, Wade, a capitalistic representative, passed a law which jailed those working-class leaders who induced men to go on strike to obtain a better price for their labor-power, and the class prejudice can be seen when this same law makes no provision for jailing

the masters when they go on strike by raising the price of commodities. The workers jeopardise the interests of their masters by going on strike, therefore they must be told their right place. Now, if there is no class struggle, as Laborites assert, the worker should fervently grasp the hand of his master, the individual who stands between him and the full fruits of his labor. The denial of these three Marxian principles brands the Labor Party's "Evolutionary Socialism" as shandy-gaff opportunism, well and truly reflected in the class of candidate it receives. Various Labor Party candidates have stated that they do not believe in Socialism, that it is absurd. Some are in favor of evolutionary Socialism, but if you ask them for a definition of the term, they will possibly say that it is a step-by-step policy.

The most grotesque ideas as to the Socialism of the Labor Party's objective are indulged in. To clinch the fact that the Labor Party's objective is not within aeroplane distance of real Socialism, I remember that in supporting the party at the last Federal elections, I was continually warned not to mention the word Socialism. The sophisms of the Labor Party concerning its stairway-climbing Socialism is an illustration of the mental vacuity of not only its deluded followers, but of its representatives in the various Parliaments.

The shallow-mindedness and lack of knowledge concerning the rudiments of political economy leads them to perpetrate the grossest of absurdities. How the few men of intelligence within Labor ranks must keenly feel the humiliating stab of conscience, presuming they have any (some political criminals, according to Havelock Ellis, are devoid of this useful moral restrainer), when they know well that their opportunist palliatives are leaving the conditions of the workers as bad as they were previous to the inception of the party. "But," the loud-mouthed demagogue will exclaim, "were we not instrumental in forcing the Liberal Party to give better wages and conditions to the workers?" The economically-ignorant worker swallowed the same kind of political goods when delivered by Wade and Co., concerning the large increase in wages brought about by his wages boards. This predominant mass of nonsense can be slain with one fact. That is, when the wages of labor are increased, the prices of commodities are increased at a corresponding rate. In fact, the capitalist class, or different sections of capitalists, obtain more profits from the increased price of commodities "necessarily due," as they say, to the increased wages. For instance, the employees of the Manly Ferry Company, some years back, obtained an increased rate of wages. The company immediately advanced the fare one penny each way. As the increased wages would only have panned out about a farthing per trip, it is easily to be seen that the worker is the loser and not the gainer by the system of Wages Boards or Arbitration Courts. We are, therefore, compelled to come back to the economic fact which the Labor Party has tried to avoid. The Socialists are right when they assert that the Labor Party must fail. The private ownership of the means of living, land, mines, factories, and all tools of production, must be socially owned to produce for use and not for profit. The system of private enterprise, or the right of a few individuals to exploit the useful working members of the community, must be abolished. To be enabled to do this, the wage-earners must fight their economic masters for the ownership of the sources and means of wealth production.

The Labor Party does not intend to fight the class that owns the workers. It is not the Labor Party's

mission to arouse the workers to class-consciousness, for do they not believe in "legislating for the benefit of all classes?" The easy facility with which Liberals and Laborites accommodate themselves to the different parties, after seeing which way the cat will jump, does not augur well for the abolition of wage slavery by the Labor Party. The workers of Australia have been duped by a few opportunists, who exhort them to defend themselves against not their own enemy, who is right here, but some hypothetical invader. They with easy gullibility swallow the lie of the capitalist press concerning the terrible havoc to be wrought by a foreign enemy, and give heed to the warning extended to the people, with the acquiescence of the Labor Party, against "revolutionary agitators creating civil war."

The truth is that the capitalist class has everything to lose and nothing to gain by an internal war, hence the bogey of the patriot. Is this not true, Messrs. Holman and Hughes? The worker has no country to defend; it is owned by his master.

The Labor Party intends to pay the national debt. This is one evidence of its intention not to alter the wage-system. The workers of all Australia are compelled to toil a large number of hours for a small remuneration to pay back the capital—and also the interest on it—lent by the international capitalists to Australia. Labor members say it is an act of moral justice to return the principal and interest to the capitalists. They do not see that it is immoral to return to the capitalists what they have never earned. These capitalists have never done a day's work in their lives, and yet they are rich. "The greatest surprise of my life," said Carnegie, himself a sweater and murderer, "was when I saw that the men who did the work never got rich." The working class has been side-tracked by the advocates and beneficiaries of political opportunism. The inevitable failure of the opportunists will swing the workers back to the true course, and when the real triumph of the workers is achieved the names of the side-trackers, Holman, Hughes, and Co., will be mud.

The Socialist Parties of the world are international in character. Their objectives and principles are the same. The interests of the workers are the same the world over, hence their common battle cry. The Australian Labor Party is unique in that it has not issued one book or pamphlet of an educative character. It is a solitary party, not extending beyond the limited confines of this continent, and it looks with general apathy mixed with hostility at the TRUE Labor or "Extremist" movements in other countries.

The workers must be made to realise that their salvation from wage-slavery lies not in such political methods as make for the conservation of the class-interests of the exploiters, but by industrial unionism and revolutionary politics, with the Socialist Republic for an objective. Political action will always be the reflex of economic or industrial knowledge and organisation. Organised on a revolutionary basis, industrially and politically, the workers could wipe out the middle-class Labor Party with its two months' jail for those who dare to demand freedom from a master's yoke. They could annihilate any other party that didn't obey their commands. The words of Karl Marx are as applicable and significant to-day as when they were first uttered: "Workers of the world, unite! You have a world to gain, and nothing to lose but your chains!"

The workers of Redfern will be pleased to learn that their State member—"Premier Jim"—was received with deafening cheers by their historic enemies, the slave-drivers and sweaters of the Sydney Chamber of Manufacturers.

Labor Party will jail the Strikers.

A SYDNEY Labor Council deputation approached the Minister for Labor on Monday with a request for certain amendments in the Industrial Disputes Act. Mr. Beeby's reply is worth preserving. He insisted that the unionists, the wage-workers, must "give their loyal adherence to the principle of settlement of industrial disputes by the tribunal established"—which tribunal is bossed by the employers' representatives—"rather than by the strike," and he proceeded to say:

"In the working out of any such scheme there must be penalties provided against those who took part in strikes, and penalties to compel the carrying out of awards. The Government regarded the penalties provided in the 1900 Act as, in the main, sufficient, but there would be an additional one. If an organisation was deliberately breaking the law, and if a strike was taking place outside the scope of the Act, then any organisation having the benefit of the Act could not support the one that was breaking the law. There would be a clear and definite provision that any organisation openly or indirectly assisting another organisation clearly breaking the law would suffer, in that any award made with regard to it would cease to operate. They would see the effect of that. Those to whom the benefits of the Act would apply would not be allowed to play fast and loose with it. The Government proposed to wipe out entirely the provisions of the Coercion Act, and substitute the provisions of the 1900 Act, and in doing that they looked for the local co-operation of the whole of the trades unionists. They realised that they could not have the two systems operating side by side, and the object was to provide the best possible measure, with a view to bringing about that golden age dreamed of for many years, when the strike would be practically unknown, or, at any rate, would be easily avoidable in the State."

The Act of 1900 provides for two months' jail for unionists who go on strike, but Mr. Beeby now proposes to penalise unions and unionists who assist others who are on strike. For instance, had Mr. Beeby's proposed law been in force during the late coal strike, the coal lumpers would have been penalised for refusing to blackleg on the coal-miners, and every other union sending financial assistance to the coal miners would have been penalised also. Mr. Beeby's statement really amounts to a declaration that if certain unionists render monetary or other assistance to unions who have enough manhood left to go on strike, the employers will be permitted by the Government to break the law as against them. It reads like a promise to let a bushranger loose to do as he likes, with a promise of immunity from prosecution because some other person has violated a minor law.

Honest unionists will laugh at Mr. Beeby's impudent and dictatorial threat that the workers won't be allowed to play fast and loose with his new Act. The workers will play football with it in the very near future.

This paper declines to do Mr. Beeby the injustice to believe that he was serious in his extraordinary talk of bringing about the golden age by letting some class-biased judge or cunning lawyer fix wages and conditions for the workers; neither do we think that his stupid remark about making the strike unknown was seriously made. Every intelligent worker knows there will be strikes as long as there is capitalism. Capitalism without a strike would be worse than a crime; the man who could either advocate or imagine it would be worse than a criminal; for we should then have robbery with mild submission to robbery, theft without protest.

Neither Mr. Beeby's bombast, nor yet his floundering, nor yet his elaborate pulling of the leg of the working-class, will cut any ice with the men who are conscious of the working-class position. They will strike when it suits them, law or no law, and the Socialists will support them every time.

And if Mr. Beeby gets in the way with his idiotic class-made acts of Parliament, well, it will be Mr. Beeby that will get run over.

Answers to Correspondents.

HARRY J. POTTER, Sydney.—Your queries, with Mr. Blumenthal's answers, will be printed in our issue of Dec. 31. No room in this issue, and next issue will be a special Xmas number.

AJAX; C.R., Sydney; A.W., Goulburn.—Received.

J.M., Yerranderie.—Pamphlets forwarded by Literature Secretary.

S.J.B., Childers.—Address forwarded.

G.A., Queensland.—Thanks.

S.A.C., Ovingham.—Address changed.

Organise! Sugar Workers! Organise!

BY F. J. RILEY.

IN the post-offices of Queensland notices are placarded stating that the sugar-cane growers require additional labor to work their plantations, and any person desiring work need only apply to the sub-collector of customs at different shipping ports, and arrangements will be made for his engagement.

The conditions of this engagement is subject to the Masters and Servants' Act of Queensland.

This is a piece of class-legislation that is always administered in the interests of the employers.

The hours of labor are from 58 to 60 per week.

The wages with rations run from 22s 6d to 15s per week.

Where arrangements can be made with the employer, 10s per week is allowed instead of a supply of rations.

Upon this showing, the wage-rate is actually 32s 6d per week for 60 hours' work in a cane brake under Queensland climatic conditions, or 5s 5d a day of 10 hours, which equals 64d per hour.

The post and customs offices are under Federal control. The Labor Party administers the Federal offices.

This Labor Party has always boasted of its sympathy with the eight-hours movement, yet its officials recruit labor to work 10 hours a day. The Labor Party's cry has been a fair day's wage, and labor is recruited under its auspices for 5s 5d per day.

Think of it! A Labor Government recruiting labor under these conditions!

This party, that so many thousands of workers place their trust in to remedy existing social evils, not only does not try to remedy, but aids with its officers the perpetuating of one of the vilest indentured systems that it is possible to imagine. Yet the workers boast of their progress on the political field! The Labor politicians know of these evils. They stand to-day condemned by their own powerlessness. The words of Francis Adams come ringing in my ears:

Grave this deep in your hearts,
Forget not the tale of the past!
Never, never believe
That any will help you, or can,
Saving only yourselves.

The sugar workers will need to have these few lines indelibly impressed upon their minds if they intend to alter their existing bad working conditions. They will have to organise a STRIKE—and strike all together; not as they have done in the past—this year, one section will go out; next year another section will go out, each section going back with promises that are soon broken. The sugar workers will have to stop the whole of the sugar industry, they will have to fight, and fight very hard at that, if they want to better their conditions. The Labor Government has failed the sugar workers, as it was destined to fail them. But the sugar workers' strength lies within themselves. The strength of the worker has always been on the industrial field. Parliaments have always existed in the interests of the ruling class for the purpose of administering their class laws. The workers can by their organised might force parliaments and all other institutions of capitalism to give better conditions.

Remember, wherever tolerably good working conditions exist, they have always been won by the organised might of the workers. Nothing has ever been given to the workers; it must be taken. Will the sugar-workers organise to take better conditions? Will they agitate the whole of the Queensland industrial forces to a sense of the injustices they are laboring under? Will they help to educate the whole of the workers to that class-consciousness that recognises their identity of interests, whether of miners, sugar-workers, engineers, or any other section of the industrial workers?

When they have done this it will be possible for them to hold their heads erect, and they will not then be called the "scum of Australia."

Then, and only then, might they have eight hours a day in their mills instead of twelve. Then, and only then, might they have eight hours a day in their cane-fields instead of ten. Then, and then only, will they begin to consider the advisability of taking over and controlling the sugar industry and all industries in the name of all the workers.

Consider this position: Is it worth organising for?

If it is, begin right now.

Place Socialist literature in the hands of every worker.

Every pamphlet and paper you read pass on to your fellow worker, and thus spread the grand principles of Socialism.

Propaganda Features.

DOMAIN—Feldhusen (chair), Wilson, Holland. PRINCE ALFRED PARK—Hirst (chair), Slade, Ruth-erford.

MARTIN PLACE—Harris (chair), Slade, Wilson. GOULBURN STREET—Hirst. (chair), Ruth-erford, Walsh, Feldhusen.

The Evening Meetings will commence at 7.

Christmas Tree—Friday of Next Week.

From the Gates of Industrial Hell.

BY A REVOLUTIONARY.

ACCIDENTS along the line of lode have been remarkably frequent of late, especially on northern mines. Not a day passes without some unfortunate wage-slave goes home with a broken arm or cut head, and very often some one is crushed to atoms.

On Tuesday a miner was killed by a fall of earth; but the groans and moans of the victims of capitalism cannot be heard above the roar of the industrial hell, where the wealth is produced for a few, and the unfortunate injured wage-slaves who have helped to produce great wealth by sweating and toiling for just enough to buy a crust are not compensated, but are thrown aside like dogs.

There was a very large attendance at Tuesday's night's meeting of the A.M.A. The cause of the muster was the "Reds" endeavoring to rescind the provision recently inserted in the A.M.A. rules that any member running for office shall sign a declaration to support and vote for every solidarity Labor member. There was a very heated discussion between the Laborites and Socialists, but by an overwhelming majority the meeting decided against rescinding the rule.

So, once again the A.M.A. has proved itself inconsistent and illogical, and actually scabs on its own objective, which is "to obtain for the workers the full fruits of their industry." This is also the B.L.F. objective, and the A.M.A. has a large number of delegates on the B.L.F.

And the A.M.A. is now trying to compel us to support a party that proclaims undying hostility to its own objective—a party that is to-day declaring against the overthrow of the present system, and is trying to "reform" the octopus Capitalism that is sucking the blood out of working men and working women—aye, and the working children. Moreover, the A.M.A. seeks to compel its officials to support a party that humbly declares it will put A.M.A. men in jail if they strike, and that holds Stokes in jail in obedience to the medieval Judge Pring and in defiance to the A.M.A. The crime of consistency can't be fixed on the A.M.A., anyhow.

The continued imprisonment of Stokes caused another heated discussion in the A.M.A. Correspondence from Arthur Griffith was read, expressing Arthur's surprise at the A.M.A. taking the stand it did, and informing us that Stokes was a criminal, etc. The Socialists present moved protesting again against the imprisonment of Stokes. The motion was lost by a few votes, and finally it was decided to allow the matter to drop.

This to suit the blackleg politicians.—5.12.10.

The slaughtering of wage-slaves is still increasing, two have met their death this week.

The directors of the mines are sitting in conference at Melbourne. No definite information is available, but a report in the capitalist daily rag to-day says it is strongly rumored in Melbourne that the directors are prepared to concede the increase for surface hands and underground truckers from 8s 7½d to 9s, also an increase for miners provided the men will enter into an agreement for five years, but that they have turned down the question of hours.

Whether this information is reliable or not, I cannot say.

The capitalist paper here occasionally strikes a nightmare, and comes out with startling headlines, especially on labor matters. It is so often wrong that the Barrier workers take very little notice of it, and when on Wednesday it devoted a sub-leader to the circular letter of the International Socialists re Stokes, and when the chap who divides his time between sweeping the office, cleaning (or is it licking?) the boss's boots, and writing leaders, tried to be funny over "Yours for the revolution," the unionists and Socialists just laughed, and some of them said: "He's got 'em again," while some others said, "Why doesn't he get work?" This writer now adds, "Why doesn't he borrow Webster's dictionary from the rival office and look up the word 'revolution'?" Revolution means complete change? If the Miner's leader-writer should ever grind out an article wholly the truth, THAT would be revolution because it would be a complete change. See? Anyhow, his Wednesday's leader reads like a cross between the jinn-jams and a sermon by Schaefer.

But it is gratifying to us to learn that the Miner, foster-parent of the blackleg N.P.U., and organ of the slave-drivers of the Barrier, fully endorses William Arthur Holman's attitude in refusing to release Walter Stokes. It proves how villainously wrong William Arthur Holman's treatment of Stokes is.—9.12.10.

The Social, Concert, and Christmas Tree, to be held in the New Masonic Hall, Castlereagh-street, Sydney, on Friday, Dec. 23, is only 1s 6d Single and 2s 6d Double for five hours' entertainment. Free entrance and Presents for the Children.

S.F.A. News & Notes.**South Australia.**

BY H.S.C.

THE Party's propaganda work is making great progress. We have splendid attendances at all our meetings.

On Sunday night last, Miss Ethel Barringer gave a grand eye-opening address on "Women under competition," and the lecturer showed a splendid grasp of her subject, and clearly demonstrated why women want Socialism. A spirited debate took place at the conclusion, showing the deep interest the large audience had taken in the lecture. One Labor supporter marvelled how it was that the Socialist movement had such splendid women in its ranks, while the Labor Party was as barren of them as a Labor politician of working-class principles. He finally recognised that it was because the Socialist movement was scientifically and economically sound, and therefore worth fighting for, while the Labor Party was economically unsound and scientifically rotten.

On Sunday, Dec. 18, comrade Jack Gunn will give an address in the Socialist Hall, Wakefield-street, on "S.A. unionism—past, present, and future." Everybody is given a hearty invitation to attend these interesting and instructive addresses on Sunday evenings.

In last week's notes I forgot to report our anti-militarist demonstration, which was a huge success. The anti-militarist resolution was carried unanimously.—8.12.10.

Sydney Jottings.

THE Agricultural Department having issued a permit, collections in aid of the Press Fund will be taken at the Domain meetings next Sunday and the Sunday following, Dec. 18 and 25.

There was again a good attendance at the economic class on Thursday. The first hour was occupied with a further study of Marx's Wage-Labor and Capital, after which Wilson opened a discussion on Historic Materialism. The class will not meet next Thursday, but the Thursday following the usual studies will be resumed, and the second hour's discussion will be opened by C. Feldhusen.

Who said Christmas Tree? We all did.

Congratulations from Sydney to Harry Clarke.

Letter and papers at S.F.A. headquarters for Mrs. Dora Montefiore.

Mrs. Lynch writes to the Party secretary that she is now almost recovered from her recent severe illness, and hopes to be back in the fight after the new year. She desires to thank Mrs. Dunn and Mrs. Harris for their attention to her during her illness. Every Socialist will be glad to welcome Mrs. Lynch back to the fighting ranks.

At last meeting of the Party executive, it was decided to invite opponents of Socialism to state their opposition at our Domain meetings. Twenty minutes to be allowed for speech, and ten minutes for reply. Opponents who wish to take advantage of this invitation will notify chairman or secretary at one meeting and will speak at next.

The Lord said unto Moses, "Come forth," and Moses came fifth and was disqualified. Take our advice, and secure tickets for the Christmas Tree and Social and come early, and you won't be disqualified.

On Sunday afternoon, notwithstanding the unpromising weather, Slade, Feldhusen, and Holland held a largely-attended meeting in Prince Alfred Park.

Sunday's Domain meeting was greatly interfered with by weather conditions. Hirst, Ruth-erford, and Wilson delivered effective speeches.

Sunday night's meetings had to be abandoned owing to the heavy rain.

Comrade Keyes left for Rockhampton on Monday. Prior to his departure he presented the Literature Committee with a parcel of pamphlets.

A blind comrade wants to rent a room in the city—not more than 5s or 6s per week.

Good talent for the concert, to say nothing of the inspiring dance music. Get your tickets for the Christmas Tree at once.

New Zealand Commemorial for December is just to hand. Its front page contains a large photo—the best yet printed—of Peter Bowling. There is also a complete refutation of the two-salaries lie. There is sure to be a rush for this number, and those who want copies will do well to come for them early.

Send a Lost-We-Forget Post Card to each member of the N.S.W. Labor Party, just to remind him of Stokes.

Members are urgently requested to note that the General Meeting of the Party is to be held next Tuesday night, 8 sharp. Very important business has to be dealt with, and every member should attend.

Broken Hill.

THE Branch has extended an invite to Swindley, Harry Clarke, and Ted Giffney to visit the Hill at Christmas.

Queensland.

RILEY and Denford are holding good meetings at Mount Morgan. They are circulating literature, selling papers, and getting new subscribers in their spare time.

A recent issue of the Mt. Morgan Chronicle reports that at the meeting of the local Council, Ald. Harrup mentioned that two men (Riley and Denford) were speaking on the street on Sunday night, and the police were told by them that they had permission to do so. The Mayor said he had not given permission, and the men would be written to and notified that they were committing a breach of the by-laws, but that action would not be taken on this occasion, as they were strangers. He said they had permission to speak on Friday night.

Tramway Tangle at Brisbane.

BY ALFRED CUNSEY.

THE men in the Brisbane tram service have long been dissatisfied with the conditions under which they work, and many attempts have been made to get them to form a union secretly. Somehow or other the boss has always got to know the men who were trying to organise, and those found guilty of talking about combining to get better conditions got the sack instead.

The Co. wouldn't have a single man on the job who favored revolutionary organisation, and so pimps are employed, and rewarded with stripes, for discovering the views of the employees and reporting same to the bosses. Gradually these pimps have been found out by the men. Some of these stripe-hunters were at a meeting held a few weeks ago in the early hours of a Sunday morning, at which conductor Matthews entered a strong protest against tram workers organising to bargain with the bosses. The *Courier*, the most lying and unscrupulous paper in Australia, has published outrageous statements about the men. In one issue it declared:

"If they [the workers] wish to remain free men, and to keep their positions apart from strife, it is advisable for them to turn their backs on the organisation [the union], and to enter an emphatic protest against the proposed move. The action of Southern delegates [engaged on an organising mission] and also that of their ill-advised fellow-workers, who had seen fit to pledge themselves to a perfect stranger, and were trying to sell the birthright of their fellow-workers, and make them slaves to Trades Hall tyranny, were most strongly to be condemned."

It is worth noting that the Brisbane Tram Co. is a combination of "foreigners," and the *Courier*, which is always ready to call upon Australians to fight against the foreigner when capitalist interests are threatened, now takes side with the foreigner—because he is a capitalist—and against the Australian, because he is a worker.

The same paper prints another splodge of brilliancy:

"Under the present system of organisation [disorganisation], he means, I suppose] among the Brisbane Tramway Co.'s men, there is no such body as a union. There is, however, at each of the depots, a recreation club, which has the right of electing two delegates to a conference executive. Each month this executive meets six of the principal heads of the Company and discusses with them any matters which may be for the benefit of the employees." [For the benefit of the shareholders would be nearer the mark.]

While the tram workers were running a few cars out to the place of their meeting, one of the drivers noticed several pimps on the car. He left the car, telling them he wouldn't drive pimps to the meeting. Next day he got the sack.

The slaves of Boss Badger are being driven into revolt by the general treatment and the manner in which they are sweated. They are beginning to realise that something must be done in the matter.

I have never before seen such a disorganised service as the tramways of Brisbane—that is, disorganised so far as the workers and the travelling public are concerned. Certainly, it is organised for the company; it is run for one reason only, the making of profit.

However, at the last meeting, held at the Light-street and Logan depots, the men voted by secret ballot, and declared by three to one in favor of federating with the southern organisations.

Industrial unionism is badly wanted here. The Ironmoulders' strike is still on, having lasted many

weeks. But because of our system of craft organisation it is the ironworkers alone who suffer.

Queensland is on the eve of great industrial upheavals, when hunger and hardship and want will combine to make the workers think. Craft unionism, which plays into the hands of the master class, is doomed to go, to make way for revolutionary unionism which will organise the workers as a class for the overthrow of the loafers.

The Holy City and Its Strikers.

BY H.R.C.

A SPECIAL meeting of the Union Mortuary was held on Friday last to consider the latest development in the Straw Hatters' strike. The U.L.U. delegates were instructed by their union to attend and endeavor to prevent the strike being wrecked. It was rather a queer old meeting, and the stupidity of the centre of sectionalism was demonstrated to a sickening degree by the officials. The secretary read a statement of the happenings during the strike up to date with comments. The Vice-President (who presided), in answer to a question, stated that the executive made no recommendation, and that what the secretary had read out was not even a report. The chairman made an appeal to members of the Mortuary to act fairly to the firm—who had victimised Brooks—and to allow the State conciliation court to crucify Brooks. The delegates present showed that they were determined that Brooks should not be betrayed, and, as the firm had made no direct charge, a resolution was carried that the matter be adjourned until the next week, and that in the meantime the firm be asked to either make a definite charge against Brooks or reinstate him. A resolution was also carried instructing the union to request Brooks to take action against the scabs who had made charges against him, and that he charge them with criminal libel, the unions to finance Brooks.

The Holy City still reeks with industrial strife, notwithstanding that parliament last week passed about 20 more Wages Board Bills.

The men working for tramway contractor McCarty are showing unmistakable signs of unrest, and it is safe to prophesy another large strike of laborers for 9s in the next few weeks.

Last week the worth of McCarty's fool ballot was well demonstrated. Twelve of his men were put on to a concrete board to work, and they demanded 9s per day. They were offered 8s 6d, but immediately downed tools for 9s. They are still out, and the contractor is unable to secure men to fill their places, and McCarty's employees say that he is already regretting his hasty expenditure of a fortnight ago.

The strike of ironworkers at Gawler is over, the men's demands having been conceded. At the final meeting of the men the Government was condemned for its actions during the strike.

Most of the late industrial troubles in the Holy City are showing "the handwriting on the wall" for the Labor (?) Government, and in each skirmish of late a proportion of the men have shown that their eyes are being peeled as to the real worth of the Labor opportunists.

Eighty wharf laborers at Port Adelaide refused to unload the steamer *Gracchus*, as she had bags of sugar weighing over 200 lbs. On Monday the *Gracchus* left Port Adelaide for Sydney, where it is expected that the satellites of strike-breaker Hughes will unload it.—8.12.10.

Adelaide drivers are on strike, with every promise of a win. The Bakers' Union has intimated that its members won't handle flour carted on scab trolleys. Two hundred pickets went out on bicycles on Monday, and scoured the roads from Dry Creek to Brighton. At Port Adelaide new dock, the work of discharging kerosene from the barque *Duggan* had to be discontinued, as there were no vehicles to remove the cases. Other vessels were similarly delayed. Good luck to the drivers.

To deny a man work and then punish him for stealing to satisfy his hunger is a crime against reason, humanity, and God, and those who uphold such tyranny are worse than infidels.—*Exchange*.

"An agitator can do nothing unless there is cause for agitation."

Capitalism's Trail of Blood.

J. EDWARDS, carter, had his leg fractured by a falling girder at the City Council's power house at Ultimo.

Frank Baker had his shoulder dislocated at Harrison, Jones, and Devlin's warehouse through some bales of wool falling on him from a lorry he was loading.

Richard Elphick, who cut his throat at Maitland, died on Saturday. He had been out of work for some time, and was financially worried into destroying himself.

L. Atchison, laborer, drowned himself in the Swan River, Perth, W.A. He left a note saying he was tired of the struggle for life.

While ascending in the cage at the Perseverance Mine, Kalgoolie, W.A., P. Brindley, miner, came in contact with the wall of the shaft at the 500ft. level and was dragged 100ft., when he fell into the plat, where his dead body was found.

Naval men who mutinied at Brazil were almost annihilated, the list of their killed and wounded exceeding 200.

Out of 45 miners entombed in a colliery in the Rocky Mountains, Canada, only 18 were rescued alive.

Peter Hines, miner, was killed by a falling rock in Block 16 of the British mine at Broken Hill on Thursday of last week. He leaves a widow and family.

Thomas Allen was burnt about the face and arms while working on a Sydney building, through a brick dropping on an unprotected electric light cable.

James Degney, lengthsmen, was run down and killed by a train at South Brisbane.

F. Riekenen cut his throat at the Victoria Home for the Aged at Melbourne. He died soon after.

William Howen, carter, sustained internal injuries at Newtown railway goods yards through being struck by a buffer of a truck.

At East Greta railway workshops, Walter P. Besley was smashed to death through being caught in some belting. He was whirled round at a terrific rate, his feet striking the low floor at each revolution. Deceased's left arm was wound round the shaft and flattened out, his head, which was terribly injured, lying in the big wheel. The soles were ripped off his boots, and his clothing torn about, while the right leg was broken and otherwise badly injured.

Labor Party rejects its own Petition.

THE International Socialists having presented the Labor Party, through Mr. McGowen, with the Labor Party's petition for the release of Walter Stokes, the Labor Attorney-General, as the representative of the Labor Party, has replied to the Socialists as follows:

Department of the Attorney-General and of Justice, Sydney, 18th December, 1910.
SIR: I have the honor, by direction of the Attorney-General and Minister of Justice, to acknowledge the receipt of letter addressed by you to the Hon. J. S. T. McGowen, M.L.A., and by him presented at this Department, forwarding a petition for the release from custody of prisoner Walter Stokes, now undergoing imprisonment in connection with the Broken Hill strike, and to add that Mr. Holman regrets that he cannot reopen this matter.—I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,
J. L. WILLIAMS,
Under-Secretary.
Hon. Sec., International Socialist Party,
274 Pitt-street, Sydney.

This means that the Labor Party intimates to the Labor Party through the International Socialists that the Labor Party regrets that the Labor Party can't see its way to grant the Labor Party's petition for the release of Stokes.

Christmas Tree, Concert, and Social

The social, concert, and Christmas tree, to be held in the New Masonic Hall, Castlereagh-street, on Friday, December 23, is only 1s 6d single and 2s 6d double for five hours' entertainment. DON'T YOU MISS IT!

Additional donations: Rutherford 2s; Hirst 2s 6d.

Things are humming in the Holy City, notwithstanding that John Verran rules there. Wednesday's daily press telegrams bring word that the baker are out in support of the drivers, the postal workers are intimating that they'll strike sudden if Josh. Thomas doesn't give them what they want, and there is even a probability that John Verran's tram will cease running because of a scarcity of coal due to the drivers' strike. Chicken-catcher Roberts, M.H.R., collided with U.L.U. secretary Dale at a strike meeting, and got an awful lambasting. About sixteen other strikes are promised, and when the last mail left, John Verran had chucked saying his prayers and was heard blaspheming violently in the ear of a peabald cat behind the back door of the Premier's office.

Christmas Tree.

An Incident at Sydney U.L.U.

A "UNITED LABORER" writes: Donald Macdonell spoke for nearly an hour and a half before the U.L.U. on Nov. 28, taking up much time that might have been more profitably utilised. He was there to talk the U.L.U. men into taking at least one share in the projected Spence-Lamond daily paper. Macdonell's attitude was one of bluster. He said this was a time for straight-talking, and he would hit hard; after which he rambled along to accuse the 70,000 metropolitan unionists of not doing their share in the matter of the new paper, and to tell them of all the money the A.W.U. had spent on political organisers, whose work had resulted so gloriously in getting some of said organisers into Parliament, and then, he said, the A.W.U. had even voted £1000 to help the Newcastle miners, who he knew were fighting a useless fight.

Digressing a little, he declared that there had been a conspiracy between the officers of the Newcastle miners and the capitalists with a view of defeating the Engine Drivers and Firemen's Union. (This seemed to the writer to be a back-door blow at Peter Bowling.) The U.L.U. men were apparently abashed at the fact of such a great man as D. Macdonell addressing them, and with a few exceptions took it all in like mother's milk. The fact that A.W.U. men had got into Parliament was harped upon (though of what earthly use they are now that we have them there, he didn't say), and the speaker employed the first personal pronoun in a painfully irritating way. All the metropolitan unions with the exception of the Typo, concern, which permits its members to set advs. for scabs and put lying reports into print when the workers are on strike, were soundly cursed, and after a most disjointed and bad-tempered harangue Macdonell said he would answer questions.

A Socialist, with a painful recollection of the awful *Vanguard*, asked whether the buying of a £50 share in such a concern wouldn't be like taking a risk for a shadow when far more good could be achieved by putting the £50 into propaganda literature on industrial unionism.

The result was as if that Socialist had waved a red flag in the face of one of the wild bulls that used to bellow on the mountains of Bashan.

Tonald got most awful wild, and shouted that he had no time for such abstract notions as industrial unionism, and he rambled off and executed some verbal tarradiddlings about many things, eventually getting up a scream about the women and girls who work their bodies away in factories, but forgetting to say how his craft unionism sends the men workers blacklegging on those same women and girls whenever they strike, and also forgetting to say how his party deliberately scabbed on the same women and girls on a recent great occasion when they fought for better conditions.

Of course, the stone-headed men in the meeting cheered this member of a party that holds Stokes in jail.

When further asked if the £50 would not be dead money if voted to his venture, he again got mad and said things, the principal of which seemed to be that it would help to get Labor members into Parliament, even as the £1000 risked by the A.W.U. had got O'Keefe into Parliament in Tasmania. He wound up by telling them that he wouldn't have wasted time talking to them if he thought they would not invest in a £50 share.

After which the meeting carried a resolution giving him—a vote of thanks.

The Press Fund.

	£	s	d
Already acknowledged	51	7	4
Per O. Jorgensen (Book 48)—			
Sheed 1s, H.D. 1s, Wagner 1s			
J.R.W. 1s	-	0	4
Billiard Tournament, Club	-	0	9
Domain Collection	-	0	8
Per C. Whitmore (Book 44)—			
B. Tracey	-	0	1
Per Gaum (Book 45)—			
H.M. 2s, Germi 1s	-	0	3
J. Theiss 1s, H. Garlisch 6d, A. Theiss 6d, J. Bruchert 2s, C. Jones 1s, J. Pohl 1s, J. Kahler 1s	-	0	7
	£55	19	94
Advanced as Loans.			
Already acknowledged	-	6	0
Total	-	61	19

THE ANGEL OF DISCONTENT.

When the world was formed, and the morning stars
Upon their paths were sent,
The loftiest-browed of the angels was named
The Angel of Discontent.

And he dwelt within the caves of the hills,
Where the crested serpent stings,
And the tiger leers and the she-wolf howls,
As he told of better things.

And he led man forth to the towered town,
And forth to the fields of corn;
And he told of the simpler work ahead
For which his race was born.

And he whispers to men of those hills he sees
In the blush of the golden west,
And they look to the light of his lifted eye
And they hate the name of rest.

In the light of that eye doth the slave behold
A hope that is high and brave,
And the madness of war comes to his blood,
For he knows himself a slave.

The serf of wrong in the light of that eye
March on with victorious songs;
For the strength of the right comes into their hearts
When they behold their wrongs.

'Tis by the light of that lifted eye
That error's mists are rent—
A guide to the table-land of Truth
Is the Angel of Discontent.

And still he looks with his lifted eye,
And his glance is far away,
On a light that shines on the glimmering hills
Of a diviner day.

—SAM WALTER FOSS.

International Notes.

Belgium.

The Brussels *People* draws interesting conclusions from the French railway strike regarding the future of Socialist and trade unionist action against war. After pointing out that after all Briand's intimidation there were still 15,000 who had not submitted, it adds: "No, you will not succeed in militarising the public services of the capitalist regime against the general strike; it is the general strike, on the contrary, which is preparing to de-militarise your capitalist regime by the veto of the agents of the public services in case of war."

And that (says *Justice*) is the important lesson taught by the events which have just taken place in France. It has been shown peremptorily by the light of experience that it is not a dead letter, that in accordance with the resolutions of Stuttgart and Copenhagen the proletariat, without distinction of frontiers, at the first alarm of the outbreak of war will rise in a general strike movement to preserve peace.

The strike will kill war. And when, at the next Congress, at Vienna, the international proletariat again receives its word of command in favor of universal peace, and proceeding from that to general disarmament, no one will any longer think of speaking of it as a chimera or utopia, and the Governments will be ready in the whole world to submit to this definite necessity. . . . Even if it had no other effect, the strike of the railway men will still remain in our eyes one of the most serious and suggestive systems of the great movements of social transformation which are preparing.

Denmark.

Peter Knudsen, Burgomaster of Copenhagen, died on October 28. Knudsen was a veteran in the ranks of the Danish Party, and his long and faithful services will make him ever remembered by the Danish proletariat. He was one of the presidents at the International Congress, and the news of his death comes with awful suddenness and will be mourned far beyond Denmark's boundaries.—*Justice*.

France.

A certain Professor of Law, named Barthelmy, has arisen and is demanding, as the only means to render a general strike impossible, that the right of association should be forbidden altogether. *L'Humanite* ironically remarks that the Professor does not go far enough. If he wants to be quite safe, he must forbid the workers to attend meetings or to read newspapers. He must also forbid them to think. In a word, he must forbid them to exist. Vulcan must be ordered to forge intelligent machines which will direct themselves.

Germany.

In the Grankenhansen district Fricke, Socialist, has just been elected to the Landtag of Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt by 561, against 238 votes polled by the bourgeois candidate.

United States.

Sunday's Independent Cables report: "Upon Sinclair, the American novelist, whose celebrated book 'The Jungle,' with its revelations concerning the methods of Chicago packing houses, made such a stir some years ago, is interesting himself in the case of Mr. Fred D. Warren, the American journalist, who was sentenced last year to six months' imprisonment."

Mr. Warren is the managing editor of the *Appeal to Reason*, America's leading So-

cialist paper, and during last year he was indicted by the Federal Court in Kansas for a violation of the postal laws by mailing an offer of reward for ex-Governor Taylor of Kentucky.

He was found guilty and sentenced by Judge Pollock to six months' imprisonment. Subsequently, however, the case was taken on appeal to a higher court.

Mr. Sinclair has now made a demand for Mr. Warren's release, and has threatened President Taft that if his request is not heeded there will be a revolution of violence, instead of a political revolution.

As a matter of fact, it is between three and four years since Fred Warren was indicted, and when last American mail left, the Supreme Court had not given its decision on the appeal argued by Warren personally some three months earlier.

If the cables are correct, the Court has declared against Warren, who has been lodged in prison.

British Columbia.

The I.W.W. quarters at Vancouver were attacked and destroyed, the police declining to interfere. The cables give no reason for the attack, which appears, by the attitude of the police, to have been police-inspired.

Japan.

It is cabled that counsel retained for the defence of Japanese Socialists recently arrested have been warned against appearing for the Socialists. The Jap. rulers are rapidly adapting themselves to the ways of Wade and Co. in N.S.W.

Italy.

The eleventh annual conference of the Italian Socialist Party was held at Milan during the last week of October. The first item of importance was as to whether or not the order of the day should be reversed. Turati was to open a discussion on "General guiding principles of political action," which would include a whole series of questions. The intransigents moved that Turati's speech be postponed until after their reckoning with the past actions of the Parliamentary group. Turati opposed this motion violently, and it was subsequently lost, the representatives of 6510 members of the party voting for, and of 11,838 against. The intransigents did not vote quite solidly for their motion and the so-called "discontented Reformists" voted with the other Reformists. Logical and justifiable as the demand for the revision was, it did not really make much difference in practice, as the discussion opened by Turati was capable of being widened to every possible subject, so that there was nothing to prevent any comrade from introducing any resolution that he chose.

After many speeches from all three sides the various resolutions were put. The substance of them was as follows: "That of Turati emphasises the necessity of various reforms, desires to limit the coalition policy to exceptional circumstances, urges the party to increased propaganda, and ignores the Ministerial question. In order to win the votes of the Romagna for this resolution, a further resolution was drawn up, which calls upon the sections to deny their support to the Republican Party in view of its behaviour in the Romagna. The resolution of Morgari-Salenini represents the opinions of the middle section, while that of Lazzari sharply and decidedly rejects Ministerialism as well as every electoral coalition.

For the Turati resolution 12,991 votes were given, and was supported by all the Romagna and Emilia delegates. That is 5000 votes less than the Reformists got at the Florence Conference. The Morgari resolution received 4574 (1400 less than at Florence), and that of Lazzari 6058 (700 more than last conference). As the number of those who abstained from voting was only 932, the Reformist resolution, with the Anti-Republican addition, had an absolute majority.

The day after this vote was taken, the revolutionary wing met to discuss whether they could, after what had happened, remain in the party. The majority, however, decided on a declaration that in the interests of the proletariat they would remain in the party, in order to hinder it from becoming a Government party, and sinking to the bourgeois level, and that their responsibility to the proletariat should be kept quite distinct from that of the Reformists. To this end a committee was appointed to keep the revolutionary fraction in touch with each other, and to prepare the way for another newspaper for this wing. It was stated that ten weekly papers are already on the revolutionary side.

In the full session of the Conference, Bissolati resigned his post as chief editor of the *Avanti*, and declared that he would never return to it. Troves was elected as his successor, but asked time to think it over before accepting. A special conference will have to be called to deal with all the unfinished business.

A coiners' plant has been confiscated at North Sydney, and the alleged counterfeiters arrested. But Billy Hughes and the other political counterfeiters are still at large.

Books, Magazines, and Papers.

The *Booklover* for December prints an excellent photo of Miss May Grant Bruce, author of "A Little Bush Maid," a work the editor declares to be the best Australian book for some years. The *Booklover* favorably notices Louis Esson's new book of verse, "Bells and Bees."

Chas. Kerr and Co., Chicago, are issuing John Kenneth Turner's "Barbarous Mexico," in a book of 350 pages.

A second edition of "Poems" by W.R.W. (Mark West, publisher, 369a Pitt-street, Sydney) has just been issued. Forty pages are added to the original edition, which was favored with a rapid sale. A typical item in the added poems is that headed "Ant and King."

Chas. Kerr and Co., Chicago, are offering 500 copies of "My Country Right or Wrong"—the book that sent Gustave Herve to a French prison for a term of four years—to each of 500 people who will send three yearly subscriptions to the *International Socialist Review*.

An advance copy of "The Radicals and other verse," by A. Needham, comes to us from the *Daily Post Newspaper Coy.*, Hobart, Tasmania. It is a book of 100 pages, its dedication note declaring: "To the derelicts, to the unemployed, to the despised and rejected amongst men, to the sweated victims of our industrial and commercial system, and to the 'bottom dogs' in society—this little book is inscribed." The author puts his foreword into verse:

I dreamt I scaled Parnassus' height,
And flung my music through the night:
In gorgeous dress my song arrayed,
With clever fancies keenly played;
The Muse her utmost gift bestowed,
And on a wave of pride I rode.

Once more I wrote some rhythmic lines,
Beneath some dark, forbidding pines;
Some scathing verse on human wrong
Was now the burden of my song;
My anger blazed 'gainst tyranny—
I wrote for Light and Liberty;
This song was rough and bold and crude,
For I was in a fevered mood.

My brave Parnassian music died
Because it lacked a human stride!
My rugged lines were lightning darts
That kindled hope in many hearts.

And in that confession Needham strikes a note that rings true. The writer who can grip the collective mind of the mighty working class and stir to quicker beating the pulse of its class-consciousness is he who shall write his name indelibly into Australian history, for Australian history of the swift-winged future is destined to be working-class history. It is true that the author of "The Radicals" scales no Parnassian heights in the neat little volume just issued, but his work deserves to be read by every working-class thinker. The message of hope, the thunder of denunciation, are written into its pages. The title piece, "The Radicals," the "Proletariat," "The Statue of a King," and "I said that God was dead," are some of the items that deserve special notice.

Socialist Fables.

The Wrecked and the Rescuers.

BY W.R.W.

A FEW years ago there was a terrible wreck off the coast, and many of the crew and passengers, in leaky boats, were struggling towards the shore.

The boats were woefully overloaded, and the heavy seas threatened every moment to send them to the bottom.

Just when their case was most desperate, a life-boat went out to meet them with a big load of life-belts aboard, which the crew offered for sale. They asked for high prices for the belts, and the poor wretches in the sinking boats clutched their purses and stared aghast at each other.

They grumbled at the prices demanded, and contended that the crew of the life-boat should be compelled to sell them at a fair price; but the owners of the belts said that would be "confiscation, robbery, and Socialism."

There was a big crowd on shore, and when they heard the argument between the wrecked people and their rescuers, they became terribly excited, and waved their arms, and shouted a lot about "inhumanity," "greed," and so forth; but the life-boat's crew took no notice, and the people in the boats at last had to pay the prices demanded for the belts.

When the shipwrecked ones had struggled ashore, the people received them warmly, and expressed the greatest indignation at the conduct of the life-boat's crew, calling them an "inhuman lot of scoundrels."

They said, Never mind, you poor shipwrecked, unfortunate ones, you can make your home with us in this fair land. We will be your good friends. You can have either town or country lots—cash or terms."

No one will quarrel with the N.S.W. Attorney-General over the release of certain prisoners at Xmas; but many will ask why a strike-prisoner could not be shown the same leniency as an abortionist or a professional criminal.

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Christmas Tree!

THE SOLDIER'S CREED.

"Captain, what do you think?" I asked.
 "Of the part your soldiers play?"
 But the captain answered, "I do not think:
 I do not think, I obey!"

"Do you think you should shoot a patriot down,
 Or help a tyrant slay?"
 But the captain answered, "I do not think:
 I do not think, I obey!"

"Do you think your conscience was made to die,
 And your brain to rot away?"
 But the captain answered, "I do not think:
 I do not think, I obey!"

"Then if this is your soldier's creed," I cried,
 "You're a mean unmanly crew;
 And for all your feathers and gilt and braid
 I am more a man than you!"

"For whatever my place in life may be,
 And whether I swim or sink,
 I can say with pride, 'I do not obey,
 I do not obey, I think!'"

Open Column.

Is the I.W.W. Necessary?

H. L. DENFORD writes: This question has arisen many times in the political organisations of the Socialists, and has been freely debated in many congresses throughout the world. That it has met with strong opposition is well known, mainly because it involves a reconstruction of the present form of economic organisation of the working class, and also on account of its purely economic character.

A section of Socialists believe that the working class organised as a political movement with a revolutionary aim, and the federation of our existing form of economic organisation (trades unionism), is all that is required to bring about better conditions and ultimately the social revolution.

To answer these one need only point to the many Socialist Parties and the Federations of Trades Unions now existing throughout the world.

In France, Germany, Belgium, and Finland we find that as soon as the political movement became powerful it grew less revolutionary, and was captured by opportunists, so-called intellectuals who were in the movement for personal ends. The result in France was that there was a split and a new revolutionary movement came into existence. The same thing is overtaking those other countries. So much better, some will say. So do I, but in the course of time the same thing will occur again, if there is no strong revolutionary economic organisation of the working class controlling the political movement. It is the absence of this organisation that is cause of the failure of these political organisations.

That a political movement can never seriously endanger the capitalist system without the propelling force of a revolutionary economic organisation is proved by the weakness of such movements as the German and French. In these two countries the political movements are closing their hands on the reins of government of the Class State. Yet the working class with their federation of trade unions are being defeated time after time in their struggles with the master class.

One of the most pleasing signs of the times is the growing discontent with parliamentary action and with our present sectional economic organisation. This in itself should be sufficient to answer the argument of those who believe in our present popular organisations.

Reports from America go to show that the best of its working class, the militant fighters, are joining the I.W.W. as a result of their recognition of the uselessness of political action alone, even though backed up with the federation of craft unions.

To those then who believe in political action alone I say we must place more reliance on the economic organisation of the working class on the lines of the I.W.W. for the important changes to come. It is folly to hope for the transformation of society by political action or even with the aid of our present sectional form of organisation. The emancipation of the working class must be the act of themselves alone, not by proxies and ballot boxes.

What then remains? What is there essential and truly revolutionary in Socialism if it is not the free effort of the working class.

The economic organisation of the proletariat upon the field of the class struggle, the organising of the workers into industrial unions, and the grouping of these for their common interests, and preparing themselves to take one day into their own hands the direction and control of the production and distribution of the means of life.

In order to arrive at this result a political movement only plays a secondary role. It is industrial unionism which is the decisive weapon, the all important weapon for the emancipation of the working class.

This, then, is the aim and method of organisation proposed by the I.W.W. Recognising this I state that the reconstruction of our economic organisation on the lines of the I.W.W. is absolutely necessary for the working-class.

In a nutshell my reasons for so thinking are: (1) That the I.W.W. with its organising of the workers as a class supplies the organised might that is necessary to bring about the social revolution. As in every previous revolution might played the all important part, and so it will to the social revolution. (2) That the working-class organised on the lines of industrial unionism supplies the organisation necessary for the operating of the means of production when the social revolution is brought about, and from which will spring the administration of the socialist state. This economic organisation would be necessary even if the social revolution could be brought about by the ballot-box. (3) Because I recognise that trade unionism—with its federations of trades unions—is played out. It has outlived its usefulness; it is no longer a scientific form of working class organisation. Recognising this, then, I am of opinion that the I.W.W. is necessary and that the day has arrived for the working class to adopt it as their future form of economic organisation.

In conclusion, to those who are opponents of the I.W.W. because they say it is unscientific, I would like to ask this question: If it was scientific for the Socialists to withdraw from the Labor Parties and form a distinct party, is it not as scientific for the industrial unionists to withdraw from the craft unions and form a new organisation?—15.10.10.

A Plea for a Real I.W.W.

As "Industrial Unionist" (whose letter we are compelled to considerably condense) writes: "I was glad to see H. L. Denford's letter in your issue of September 10, suggesting the formation of an organisation on the lines of the American I.W.W. Its preamble, which I enclose herewith and would like you to publish (and which, by the way, the Sydney I.W.W. Club repudiates), is to my mind the correct thing. I don't think that Denford's letter was written with a view to creating further divisions, but undoubtedly there are many Socialists and others holding industrial union views who can't fall in with the attitude of the present Sydney Club. For a time I was a member of that Club, and my experience was that it was completely dominated by a particular section, who subordinated the whole of its business to their own political opportunism. I am not a member of any political party; perhaps I am more of an anarchist than anything else; but, I certainly feel that in a real I.W.W. movement Anarchists, Socialists, Laborites, and other wage-workers could work together for working-class emancipation, and for this reason I should like to see Denford's suggestion acted upon, and a move made to form the nucleus of the I.W.W. in Sydney."—25.9.10.

Arthur Griffith and Reckless Extremists.

JOHN ANDERSON writes: In the *Herald* a few days ago is a statement made by Mr. Arthur Griffith at a railway extension function that "he would be no party to the objective of reckless extremists. His policy was justice to all and privilege to none." I do not suppose one man in a hundred would express himself otherwise, but let it be understood that saying is one thing and doing is another. In bygone days one man sold the other the same as cattle. Present-day custom allows man to sell himself if he can find a buyer—which in many cases, especially where women are the sellers of labor power, it is absolutely impossible. Those who advocate superseding this state of things are classed as reckless extremists. Can any person defend the difference between master and servant, tyrant and slave? I do not suppose Mr. Griffith has much to say against our reckless millionaires who are causing the wreckage of humanity hourly through excessive idleness and profligacy in spending without earning. Never! Take, for instance, that splendid word Justice, and examine how things are working out around you. One thinker of fame tells us before Justice can be done man must himself be just.

Exactly so; might we add that the environment must first be just, also you cannot blame a sheep or a person condemned to starve or live on the smell of an oil rag if either try to better itself or himself by disobeying laws. Where is, then, the so-called Justice to all, when for the same suit of clothes the one works one day, the other a week, the other a month, and the other never does anything. A man with a dozen helpless little ones cannot get his living, because they—the so-called people of consequence—want married couples without encumbrance, offering thereby a premium to vice at the cost of virtue. Mr. Griffiths also tells us he will show preference to none, but I suppose he will show preference to unionists, also to the European over the Asiatic. Granted that he favors privileges to unionists, but then the Bosses can go wool-sweating amongst the unionists although they get the same for shearing sheep per hundred, say they shear in a day 150, 170, 190, or 220, preference of working goes to the ringer—he always is in work, the slower laborers always on the scrap heap. Work for all and all to work is the motto of the despised reckless extremists."

A Column of Clippings.

Yes, there is a difference between the rich and the poor, the rulers and the ruled. The rich combine for their interests and the poor will not.

The rich man's horses are better housed and cared for than the working people from whose labor the rich man is fed, clothed and entertained.

The root of evil is ignorance.

Petpetual motion—a dollar drawing interest.

The land belongs to the people, but they don't know it yet.

Every right-minded man wants a home. Under Socialism he will have it.

As long as a man's idea of prosperity is a job, he will not rise high on the social ladder.

Lots of fellows who were wearing prosperity badges on the lapels of their coats in 1900 are now wearing them on the seats of their pants.

Socialism will make all men neighbors. It will do more than that—it will make it possible for us to love our neighbors as ourselves.

A Canton, Ohio, judge recently fined some boys who stole a pig 2 dol. per pound of the pig's weight. A New Jersey judge has placed the value of a baby at 1 dol.

Until the workers own the earth and arrange for a division of the hours of labor there will always be the unemployed problem with all its hideous agonies. When the workers make up their minds to grab the political machines, so that they may secure the machinery of production, they themselves will be the owners, and, therefore, participants in its marvellous productivity.

When the capitalist is locked in labor will be no longer locked out.

The table of wealth is spread by the workers. If they insist on being waiters so much the worse for them.

There are, according to official reports, 100,000 prisoners in America, and crime costs the nation a billion dollars a year. What is crime? Merely doing contrary to law, what the plutes do according to law. The legal robbery is the most costly and the illegal merely playing contrary to the rules of the game.

If you want to kill a man, don a uniform, and it is all right. This is an ethic of capitalism.

One result of the invention of the automobile is said to be a decrease in church attendance and church collections. Perhaps the church will awaken to a realisation of the power of the machine in modern society.

Mr. Capitalist, that soft seat of yours is a human heart—with perhaps a worker's head thrown in now and then.

The boy scouts movement is a plan for enacting the dime novel into real life.

Socialism will put conscience on the job again.

Harry Beswick writes in the British *Clarion* that "every speech of the Kaiser means more Socialist seats in the Reichstag." He reprints some verses, headed "Meinself—and Gott," published 12 years ago in the *Clarion*:

Der Kaiser auf der Vaterland
 Und Gott on High all things command.
 Ve two! Ach! don'd you understand?
 Meinself—and Gott.

While some men sing der power divine,
 Mine soldiers sing der Wacht am Rhein,
 Und drink der heit, in Rhenish wein,
 Auf me—and Gott.

In dimes of peace, brebared for wars,
 I bear the helin and spear of Mars,
 Und care nicht for ten dousand Caars—
 Meinself—and Gott!

In short, I humor every whim
 Mit aspect dark and visage grim;
 Gott pulls mit me, und I mit Him—
 Meinself—and Gott.

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